

REMARKS

Claim 1 is pending in the application. Claim 1 has been rejected.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,650,741.

Claim 1 has been amended to distinguish from claims included in the prior U.S. Patent No. 6,650,741.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Raasch (U.S. Patent No. 6,690,776). The rejection of claim 1 as being anticipated by Raasch is respectfully traversed, however claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the subject matter of the invention in order to facilitate bringing this case into allowance.

Claim 1 includes a device comprising: a telephone port for coupling to a telephone network (col. 2, lines 37-41); and one or more processors coupled with the telephone port (col. 3, lines 9-12 and 40-41), wherein the one or more processors are adapted to establish a modem connection with each of a plurality of modems over a one or more telephone lines (col. 2, lines 59-65); exchange data over the modem connection (col. 2 lines 66-67); place the modem connection on hold from the exchanging of data to start a hold session (col. 3, lines 24-26); and prevent the hold session from exceeding an individualized hold timeout time limit, wherein the modem connection is resumed at the conclusion of the individualized hold timeout time limit (col. 5, lines 41-46).

Raasch does not teach having individualized hold timeout time limits for each of a plurality of modems. The two modems described by Raasch at col. 10, lines 53-65 and col. 11, lines 14-18 refer to two modems participating in the same modem session, and not two modems having individualized hold timeout limits. The two modems described in Raasch are both associated with the same hold time limit, and there is no teaching that the hold time limit is individualized for a plurality modems. Raasch teaches that the hold time limit 357, is set by the DPCM modem associated with the central office (col. 4, lines 41-42 and col. 10, lines

53-65), and does not teach that different hold time limits can be associated with each of a plurality of modems.

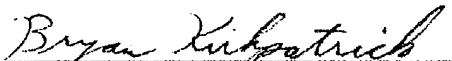
Raasch does not teach a device wherein the modem connection is resumed at the conclusion of the individualized hold timeout time limit. Raasch teaches that the communication session is terminated at the expiration of the time limit (col. 13, lines 12-15, and col. 14, lines 35-37).

Claims 2-23 have been added for consideration.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, consideration and allowance of claims 1-23 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,


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